

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7829

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E.O. 1162:N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: OVERSEAS CITIZENS VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1975

1. INQUIRIES REGARDING REGISTRATION AND VOTING UNDER ABOVE CITED ACT BUILDING UP RAPIDLY AND EMBASSY ESTIMATES IT MAY REQUIRE MINIMUM OF 50,000 FPCA FOR ANTICIPATED REGISTRATIONS FOR 1976 FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

2. EMBASSY ADVISING AMERICANS CONCERNED THAT UNDER ACT THEY MAY VOTE IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS, I.E. PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES BUT NOT REPEAT NOT PRIMARIES. CITIZENS OF VOTING AGE ARE BEING ADVISED THAT THEY MAY REGISTER BY FPCA WHICH SHOULD BE RETURNED BY APPLICANT TO BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN STATE OF LAST RESIDENCE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER CITIZEN HAS DOMICILE OR LEGAL RESIDENCE IN THAT STATE, AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO ELECTIONS.

3. EMBASSY, HOWEVER, WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON OTHER ASPECTS OF VOTING UNDER ACT.

4. FOR EXAMPLE, WILL REGISTRATION BY FPCA ENSURE THAT APPLICANT WILL RECEIVE BALLOT OR MUST ADDITIONAL CARD BE SUBMITTED FOR BALLOT? WILL NEW GENERAL FEDERAL BALLOT WITH SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS BE ISSUED FOR VOTING UNDER ACT OR WILL VARIED STATE REQUIREMENTS CONTINUE TO APPLY?

5. MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION PERHAPS IN MINDS OF MANY PROSPECTIVE REGISTRANTS UNDER NEW ACT IS WHETHER THE

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FORMALITY OF REGISTRATION WILL IN SOME WAY OF ITSELF

OBLIGATE THE REGISTRANT TO PAY INCOME TAX TO THE STATE
OF REGISTRATION. PLEASE ALSO SUPPLY SPECIFIC GUIDANCE TO
ANSWER INQUIRIES ABOUT THIS ASPECT OF REGISTRATION.

RICHARDSON

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